

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAO PA 01240 161930Z
ACTION ARA-10

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O R 161830Z MAY 77
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7707
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAO PAULO 1240

STADIS////////////////////

FOR LUERS FROM AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, BR
SUBJ: SCHEDULED COLLOQUIM ON US-BRAZIL RELATIONS

1. WHILE RECOGNIZING POSSIBLE ADVERSE IMPACT ON ACADEMIC COMMUNITY, I WOULD URGE A POSTONEMENT OF THE COLLOQUIM ON US-BRAZIL RELATIONS UNTIL AFTER MRS. CARTER'S VISIT. WHAT MIGHT BE SEEN HERE AS A SEMI-PUBLIC CRITICAL REVIEW, UNDER US GOVERNMENT AUSPICES--IF NOT BY USG ITSELF--OF MOST CENTRAL AND SENSITIVE ISSUES IN BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP COULD WELL HAVE CHILLING EFFECT ON ATTITUDES WITHIN GOB AND CONSEQUENTLY IN MEDIA AT A TIME WHEN THINGS HAVE BEEN LOOKING UP. PARTICIPATION OF BRADY TYSON IN THE PROCEEDINGS UNFORTUNATELY MAY BE VIEWED HERE AS A SPECIAL PROVOCATION. HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IS PARTICULARLY TOUCHY NOW SINCE GROWTH OF VOCAL NATIONWIDE OPPOSITION TO APRIL REFORMS AND EMERGENCE OF STUDENT PROTEST MOVEMENT. WE BELIEVE GOB IS VERY SENSITIVE TO INTERNATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS IN COPING WITH THESE TWO CHALLENGES, AND WE DO NOT WANT TO DO OR SAY ANYTHING TO SUGGEST US CRITICAL JUDGMENT ON BRAZILIAN PERFORMANCE THAT COULD PROVOKE NEW WAVE OF BRAZILIAN NATIONALISTIC EMOTIONALISM BETWEEN NOW AND VISIT OF MRS. CARTER.

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